

Message Text

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EUR:LBLAINGEN (SUBS)

EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OREP, (DAVE OBEY, D-WISC.)

SUBJECT:CODEL OBEY VISIT TO PORTUGAL, GREECE, AND NEAR
EAST

REF: STATE 171548 (NOTAL)

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1. CONGRESSMEN DAVE OBEY (D-WISC.), EDWARD KOCH (D-N.Y.),

AND JOSEPH EARLY (D-MASS.), ACCOMPANIED BY FSO ESCORT OFFICER JAMES R. CHEEK (DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NEA/RA) PLAN VISIT PORTUGAL, EGYPT, SYRIA, JORDAN, ISRAEL, AND GREECE AUGUST 20-30. ALL THREE CONGRESSMEN ARE MEMBERS OF HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AS WELL AS FOREIGN OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE AND WILL BE TRAVELLING ON OFFICIAL COMMITTEE BUSINESS. PRIMARY INTEREST IS IN MATTERS RELATED TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT, PARTICULARLY ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID. GIVEN RELEVANCE OF US ASSISTANCE TO POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS, THEY WILL WANT TO EXPLORE THESE AREAS AS WELL. IN ADDITION, CONGRESSMAN EARLY, AS A MEMBER OF STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE, AND JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE IS INTERESTED IN MATTERS UNDER THAT SUBCOMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION.

2. CODEL HAS EMPHASIZED WORKING NATURE OF PLANNED VISIT. CONGRESSMEN DO NOT WISH ANY PRO FORMA RECEPTIONS OR OTHER SOCIAL FUNCTIONS TO BE HELD FOR THEM. BREAKFASTS, LUNCHESES, AND DINNERS WILL BE WELCOMED IF THEY AFFORD OPPORTUNITY FOR SUBSTANTIVE CONVERSATION WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS AND OTHERS. CODEL IS SEEKING MAXIMUM CONTACT WITH LEADERS AND OTHER KEY HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS AS WELL AS PARLIAMENTARIANS AND REPRESENTATIVE STUDENT GROUPS.

3. BEFORE DEPARTURE CODEL PLANS TO BE BRIEFED HERE AND THEREFORE POSTS NEED NOT ARRANGE FORMAL BRIEFINGS. CODEL, HOWEVER, ON ARRIVAL WOULD LIKE TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH AMBASSADOR AND USAID DIRECTOR OR SENIOR ECONOMIC OFFICER TO DISCUSS GENERAL COUNTRY SITUATION AND US ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

4. POSTS REQUESTED TO RESERVE FOUR SINGLE ROOMS IN REASONABLY PRICED HOTEL TO ACCOMMODATE CODEL. CONGRESSMEN OBEY, KOCH, AND EARLY ARE AUTHORIZED 19FT510 FUNDS. POSTS SHOULD ALSO ARRANGE FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF CODEL'S PROGRAM.

5. TRAVEL ITINERARY:

WED. AUGUST 20, 1705 HRS. DEPART WASHINGTON (DULLES) VIA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TWA 832/900

THURS. AUGUST 21, 0845 HRS. ARRIVE LISBON

FRI, AUGUST 22, 0945 HRS. DEPART LISBON FOR ATHENS (VIA ROME) ON TWA 910. 1855 HRS. ARRIVE ATHENS. 2050 HRS. DEPART ATHENS VIA ALITALIA 890. 2240 HRS. ARRIVE CAIRO

MON. AUGUST 25, 1500 HRS. DEPART CAIRO VIA SYRIAN ARAB
AIRWAYS 352. 1700 HRS. ARRIVE DAMASCUS

TUES. AUGUST 26 1500 HRS. DEPART DAMASCUS VIA AUTOMOBILE
FOR AMMAN. 1800 HRS. ARRIVE AMMAN

WED., AUGUST 27 1000 HRS. DEPART AMMAN VIA AUTOMOBILE FOR
JERUSALEM. 1200 HRS. ARRIVE JERUSALEM

FRI., AUGUST 29 1530 HRS. 1530 HRS. DEPART TEL AVIV VIA
OLYMPIA 302. 1730 HRS. ARRIVE ATHENS

SAT., AUGUST 30 0800 HRS. DEPART ATHENS FOR WASHINGTON
VIA TWA 901/891. 1510 HRS. ARRIVE WASHINGTON (DULLES)

(CHEEK WILL LEAVE CODEL AT ATHENS, AND VISIT SOME ADDI-
TIONAL NEA POSTS FOR ORIENTATION CONSULTATIONS. SEPTTEL
FOLLOWS.)

6. FOR LISBON: CODEL WISHES TO MEET KEY MILITARY AND
POLITICAL PARTY FIGURES IF POSSIBLE. LEAVE DINNER FREE.

7. FOR CAIRO: CODEL HOPES MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT
CAN BE ARRANGED. PLEASE INCLUDE TRIP TO SUEZ CANAL WHERE
CODEL CAN SEE CONSTRUCTION WORK IN AT LEAST ONE CANAL CITY.

8. FOR DAMASCUS: CODEL HOPES POST CAN ARRANGE INFORMAL
MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ASAD. RE OTHER CONTACTS SEE REFTEL.
ALSO ARRANGE FOR AUTOMOBILE TRANSPORTATION TO AMMAN.

9. FOR AMMAN: CODEL WISHES TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOP-
MENT WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN AND TO MEET KING, DESPITE
SHORTNESS OF AMMAN VISIT. PLEASE ARRANGE FOR CODEL TRAVEL
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BY AUTOMOBILE TO JORDAN RIVER BRIDGE.

10. FOR TEL AVIV AND JERUSALEM: ISRAEL EMBASSY
WASHINGTON ARRANGING VISIT OF CODEL WHICH WILL INCLUDE
MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER RABIN AND FOREIGN AND
DEFENSE MINISTERS, TRIP TO GOLAN HEIGHTS AND VISIT TO WEST
BANK INCLUDING UNRWA REFUGEE CAMP. EMBASSY SHOULD CO-
ORDINATE WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY AND ASSIST AS NECESSARY.
ISRAELIS PRESSED CODEL TO VISIT REFUGEE CAMP IN GAZA BUT
CODEL INSISTED ON VISIT TO WEST BANK REFUGEE CAMP.
EMBASSY SHOULD FOLLOW UP TO ASSURE THAT PROGRAM INCLUDES
WEST BANK REFUGEE CAMP VISIT.

11. FOR AMMAN AND TEL AVIV: TRAVELLERS' PASSPORT AND
BIRTH DATA NEEDED FOR ARRANGING BRIDGE CROSSING WILL BE

SENT SEPTTEL.

12. FOR ATHENS: CODEL WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EVENING
MEETING WITH PRIME OR FOREIGN MINISTER IF IT COULD BE
ARRANGED. DECONTROL 9/1/75. KISSINGER

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